

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY



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**DAVID ORR
COUNTY CLERK**

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY

**October 22, 2008
(Special Meeting)**



TODD H. STROGER, PRESIDENT

**WILLIAM M. BEAVERS
JERRY BUTLER
FORREST CLAYPOOL
EARLEAN COLLINS
JOHN P. DALEY
ELIZABETH "LIZ" DOODY GORMAN
GREGG GOSLIN
ROBERTO MALDONADO
JOSEPH MARIO MORENO**

**JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY
ANTHONY J. PERAICA
MIKE QUIGLEY
TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER
PETER N. SILVESTRI
DEBORAH SIMS
ROBERT B. STEELE
LARRY SUFFREDIN**

**DAVID ORR
COUNTY CLERK**

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**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF COOK COUNTY**

Special Meeting of Wednesday, October 22, 2008

**10:15 A.M.
Daylight Saving Time**

COOK COUNTY BOARD ROOM, COUNTY BUILDING

Board met pursuant to the following call:

October 17, 2008

The Honorable David Orr
Cook County Clerk
69 West Washington Street, Room 500
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Clerk Orr:

As President of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, I am calling a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on Wednesday, October 22, 2008, at the hour of 10:15 A.M., in the County Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, pursuant to § 2-6006 of the Counties Code (55 ILCS 5, et seq.) and § 2-108 of Chapter 2, Article III, Division 2 and § 38-83 of Chapter 38, Article V of the Code of Ordinances of Cook County for the submission of the FY 2009 Preliminary Budget for the Cook County Health and Hospitals System.

Very truly yours,

TODD H. STROGER, President
Cook County Board of Commissioners

COPY OF LETTER SENT TO ALL COMMISSIONERS

October 17, 2008

President and Members
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Todd H. Stroger, President of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, has directed me to call a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on Wednesday, October 22, 2008, at the hour of 10:15 A.M., in the County Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, pursuant to § 2-6006 of the Counties Code (55 ILCS 5, et seq.) and § 2-108 of Chapter 2, Article III, Division 2 and § 38-83 of Chapter 38, Article V of the Code of Ordinances of Cook County for the submission of the FY 2009 Preliminary Budget for the Cook County Health and Hospitals System.

Very truly yours,

DAVID ORR, County Clerk

* * * * *

This is to certify that a copy of the above notice was hand delivered and personally addressed to each Member of the Board of Cook County Commissioners at their home address and was deposited in the United States Mail on October 17, 2008.

DAVID ORR, County Clerk

* * * * *

The following Legal Notice appeared in the Chicago Sun-Times Newspaper on Wednesday, October 22, 2008.

LEGAL NOTICE

Todd H. Stroger, President of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, has directed me to call a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on Wednesday, October 22, 2008, at the hour of 10:15 A.M., in the County Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, pursuant to § 2-6006 of the Counties Code (55 ILCS 5, et seq.) and § 2-108 of Chapter 2, Article III, Division 2 and § 38-83 of Chapter 38, Article V of the Code of Ordinances of Cook County for the submission of the FY 2009 Preliminary Budget for the Cook County Health and Hospitals System.

Very truly yours,

DAVID ORR, Cook County Clerk and
Clerk of the Board of the Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois

October 22, 2008

OFFICIAL RECORD

President Stroger in the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

At 10:15 A.M., being the hour appointed for the meeting, the President called the Board to order.

QUORUM

County Clerk David Orr called the roll of members and there was found to be a quorum present.

ROLL CALL

Present: President Stroger and Commissioners Beavers, Butler, Claypool, Collins, Daley, Gorman, Goslin, Maldonado, Moreno, Murphy, Quigley, Schneider, Silvestri, Sims - 14.

Absent: Commissioners Peraica, Steele, Suffredin - 3.

COOK COUNTY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS SYSTEM

FISCAL YEAR 2009 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Transmitting a Communication, dated October 16, 2008 from

WARREN L. BATTS, Chairman, Cook County Health and Hospitals System

Please accept the Cook County Health and Hospitals System Board's budget recommendation for the County's Health and Hospitals System for Fiscal Year 2009. The budget recommendation was approved unanimously by the new System Board.

It is important to highlight that the System Board's recommended budget is a transition budget in its effort to rebuild, re-engineer and reform the County's health care system. The System Board has been in operation for just over three months. The Directors have met every week as a board or committee since July to lay the groundwork for meaningful and lasting long-term reform. This budget represents the first step in this process.

The recommended budget reflects four principal goals of the Board:

- Improve existing revenue streams, as well as identify new revenue sources,
- Seek operational efficiencies and economies,
- Add the necessary core functions and capacities that are absent or inadequately staffed; and
- Most importantly, deliver critical quality health care services to the uninsured and underinsured residents of Cook County.

Each of these goals will take time to accomplish in addition to dedicated resources and qualified personnel. They are interrelated in many ways. For example, institutional capacity for financial and operational analysis, both of which have been woefully lacking, are necessary to identify operational efficiencies and economies. Improved efficiency, and the resources thereby freed up, will be necessary to ensure that critical services are available to all residents of Cook County who seek them from the System. Meeting critical capital needs and improving our IT systems are required to accomplish all of our responsibilities.

In broad brush, the budget was put together in the following way: First, the costs of inflation and County-negotiated collective bargaining agreements were included. This circumstance alone accounts for nearly 60% of the recommended budget increase. Next, the most critical institutional capacity deficiencies and service needs were identified and explicitly budgeted for, with new sales tax revenues. Finally, goals for operational efficiencies and economies were established and identified as the source of funding for further necessary capacity additions and the rebuilding of essential services.

As required under the Ordinance establishing the System Board, we have begun the strategic planning process for the County's health care system and the nationwide search for a permanent System Chief Executive Officer. Both will be completed in the middle of the budget year and will significantly impact the direction the System takes over the coming years.

However, the System cannot wait. Accordingly, the System Board has constructed a budget with maximum flexibility, yet as realistic as possible at this time in the reform process. We have not asked for everything we believe we need we are holding ourselves and our administrators to the task of finding the additional resources to meet our needs from internal savings and improved revenues.

The budget submitted will be a living, breathing document. Over the course of the next fiscal year, the System Board will expect the System management to identify opportunities for significant efficiency improvements and revenue enhancements and the System Board will direct resources saved or obtained to meet the additional System needs that have not been explicitly budgeted for. The process for accomplishing this has already begun so that operational improvements can be realized as quickly as possible.

Perhaps the most important number shaping this budget is a number that appears nowhere in the document. Just last week, the U.S. Census Bureau released a new estimate of the number of uninsured persons in Cook County - 784,930, or 16.9% of the population. The Cook County health care system sees only a fraction of these persons each year, but serves as the ultimate safety net for all of them. In addition, we have learned of unmet needs throughout the system, especially southern Cook County. We know that the resources we have asked for in this budget are inadequate to these tasks, but nonetheless it is our responsibility to provide quality health care services in an efficient and effective manner with our limited resources.

Respectfully,

Warren L. Batts
Chair,
Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCHHS)
Board of Directors

Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Sims, moved that the Cook County Health and Hospitals System FY 2008 Preliminary Budget be referred to the Committee on Finance. **The motion carried unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Silvestri, moved that the Special Meeting do now adjourn.

The motion prevailed and the Special Meeting stood adjourned.

* * * * *

The next regular County Board Meeting is scheduled by law, for Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at 10:00 A.M.

County Clerk